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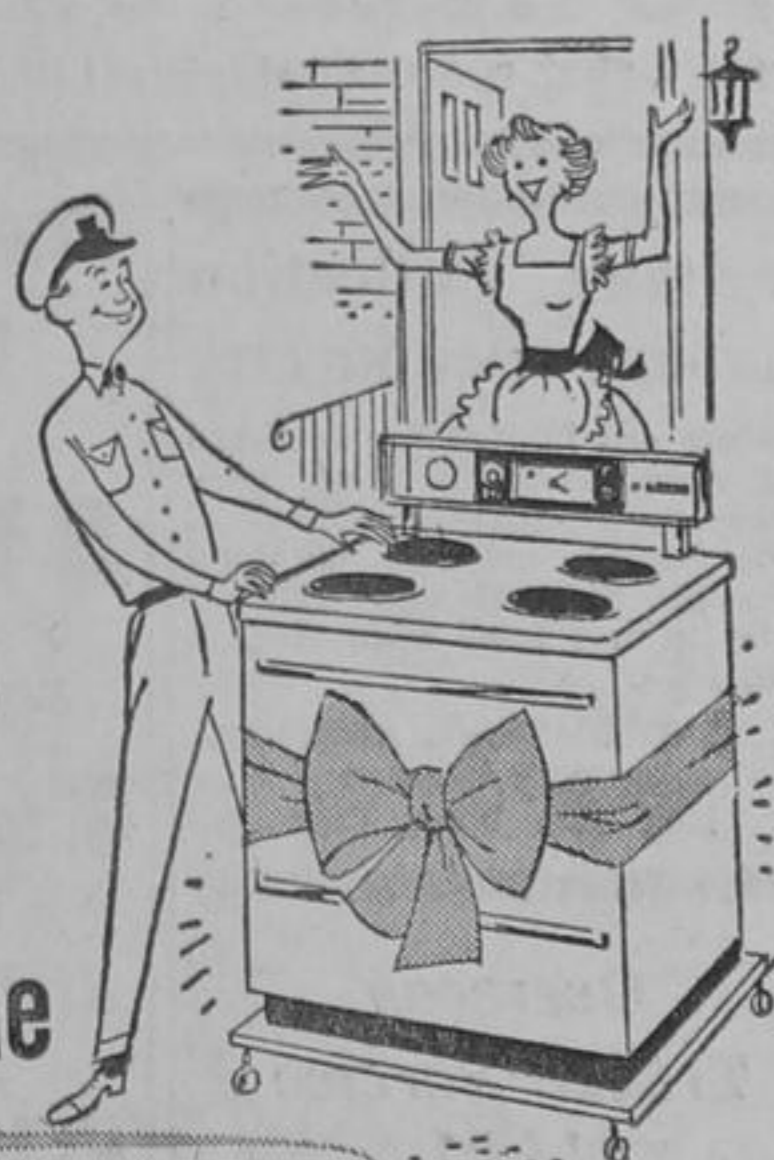
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Richildaca News

by Bill Babcock

'Many days have come and gone, but even weather won't stop our song.'

Those of you who live along the bus route, (Elgin Mills, Bayview and Markham) have heard the Richildaca Choir as the campers joyously go and come from camp. Their happiness can be seen throughout the day as the enthusiastic youngsters sing their way from one activity to another. Even in the water they are as happy and contented as we all would like to be.

We have watched five learners, Simon Corden, John Benson, Michael Weeks, Steven Dunkley and Joey Harwood step into the beginners' group by swimming the length of the pool. Beginners Elaine Hassard and Sharon Cowan have moved up to become Junior Swimmers. We hope 11 juniors will be ready to pass the Red Cross tests today. Everyone is receiving some training and even the Counsellors have to dive for two or three weeks before they are ready to leave the pool. Mr. Gibson, our Director and Red Cross Instructor, reports that he is extremely well satisfied with the swimming programme this year. It is much more successful than in the past because he is working with small groups of 24.

In the Arts and Crafts section of camp activity, the campers have two craft periods each day, one hour in the morning and one half-hour in the afternoon. Each camper has made a pair of brown leather moccasins and the campers who have returned to camp have made mosaic bottles, Indian water drums and other group crafts. The tribes have made totem poles and model Indian villages or murals of Indian Life.

The Cheyenne tribe have been working on the wooden totem pole, while the Hurons have experienced linoleum block printing. The younger boys and girls have made flying saucers and the latest fashions in hats for Fall. The Micmac tribe have begun working on their shell brooches and ear-rings.

Every tribe is making a nature booklet of leaf, weed, or flower blue prints. It has been a challenge for the children to name all the prints. When the various tribes return from a hike, they are required to give a report on what was seen or experienced during the trip. From the enthusiasm shown when the hike re-

ports are given at the pow-wow it is easy for us to see how much enjoyment the campers derive. Cook-outs are pleasant, exciting learning experiences for all the campers, especially when they can cook a T-bone steak or a chicken leg to perfection in aluminum foil over a glowing bed of coals. As a result of their visit to the mill pond, the Apaches and the rest of the camp now have an aquarium to observe.

Our last camp period starts on Monday, August 1 at 9 a.m. There are still some vacancies, and those who would like to have their children attend camp should phone TU. 4-2844 immediately for registration. Your help in this matter is requested so that Richildaca will not only be 'non-profit' but also 'non-loss'.

THORNLEA

Correspondent:
Mrs. B. Lepkey
Phone AV. 5-3489

Socials
We are sorry to hear that Mrs. G. Curtis, Bayview Ave. is sick and confined to her bed. We hope she won't be too long before she is up and around again.

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Lepkey on Tuesday evening were Mr. and Mrs. G. Hall, Willowdale, former residents of No. 7 Highway. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have recently returned from a six weeks vacation in Shamock, Sask. It was almost like taking the trip ourselves to hear their description of the various trips taken to visit the Parliament Buildings and RCMP Barracks in Regina, and I'm sure they made Mr. Lepkey homesick when talking of getting stuck in the mud on the country roads and the train running only once a week, as he was raised and homesteaded in the west and knew the places Mr. and Mrs. Hall visited.

Mrs. R. Curtis, No. 7 Highway, visited with her sister in London on Wednesday and Thursday of this week where she left Bonny Jean and Gay for a month. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis left July 22 for a tour of Alaska and Western Provinces. Judy will be staying with Mr. and Mrs. Suter, Westwood Lane.

Mr. and Mrs. Sid Lusher left July 18 for a two week vacation in Syracuse, New York.

WILLOWDALE: The 14-acre tract of land at the south-west corner of Finch Avenue and Bathurst Street will be the site of a new, huge service station, instead of, as originally planned, 344 apartment units.

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Town Public School Bd.

Engineering Report On Future School Sites

Before any more school sites are bought by the Richmond Hill Public School Board, township or municipal (depending on where the property is located) engineers will be asked to undertake an investigation of the site, the local board decided at last Thursday's regular meeting in McConaghy School.

The site of the Pleasantville School has proved to be rather a problem in the matter of drainage and soil conditions. However, work on the building itself is progressing rapidly. Though soil borings were taken previous to construction the board agreed to spend an additional \$879.00 to remove soft silt and replace it with pit run gravel on the parking lot before a topping is laid. Drainage easement with property owners near the school are still under negotiation, reported Chairman L. D. Clement.

French Lessons
During his attendance at the educational convention at Bigwin Inn in June, Chairman Clement heard a lecture on the teaching of French in elementary schools. Chairman Clement commented, "In my opinion, for us, teaching French is only part of a general need for curriculum and program improvements and extension, and is certainly not our most important requirement."

Trustee Mrs. Irene Worrall spoke of an accelerated class at Beverley Acres School which studied French after school with an interested and capable teacher about a year ago. She felt the teaching of French in the elementary grades was "worth talking about".

Superintendent Gordon McIntyre pointed out if all the schools decided to teach French in the elementary grades there simply weren't the teachers available in Ontario to undertake the job.

Trustee Mrs. Worrall will represent the board in planning for the recreation workshop this fall which is to be sponsored by the town Recreation Committee.

Trustee Cecil Williams wondered if the committee had "one eye on our facilities" to use for recreation purposes. Chairman Clement pointed out the space available in the schools was being fully utilized now by many organizations. "We'll help if we can," said Chairman Clement. "But after all we are a school board, not a recreation board."

Vacation School
A member of St. Matthew's United Church, Mr. Scott appeared to request the use of one classroom and the all-purpose room at the Scott School for a daily vacation Bible School from August 15 for two weeks. Trustee Harold Sanderson told Mr. Scott the maintenance schedule called for cleaning the schools for the September opening the last weeks in August. As many of the caretaking staff were now on holiday, or working to renovate the classrooms at the McConaghy School, it was impossible to change the schedule. The board asked Mr. Scott to ascertain whether it would be possible to use the school the earlier part of August.

Salaries
Half a dozen teachers have asked to be paid their summer salaries in advance, reported Secretary Mrs. D. Street. It was pointed out at the teachers' request it had been decided several years ago to make the payments 12 instead of 10. Trustee Mrs. Worrall of the Personnel Committee suggested it might be wise to review the manner of payment with the teachers' council in the fall, as with a larger staff now there might be a different feeling in regard to method of payment. The secretary was instructed to carry on as stipulated in the contracts for the time being.

Retirement Age
The building committee (Trustees Sanderson and Williams) will study the retirement age for maintenance personnel and report on their findings in the fall. On motion of Trustees Sanderson and Williams, Maintenance Supervisor Carl French will be paid \$65.00 per month for use of his truck in carrying out his duties, plus ten cents a mile for maintenance trips outside the municipality both retroactive to March 1st. Previous mileage allowance was \$50.00 per month.

The board will advertise for a caretaker and a part-time caretaker for the school system shortly.

Pleasantville School
Furniture and equipment for the Pleasantville School totalling \$9,754.55 were approved.

Future Class Room Needs
Superintendent McIntyre presented a number of charts show-

ing statistical data of pupils and classrooms available and needed in the future. It is estimated at the present stage of development, Richmond Hill School will need five classrooms a year for the next three years. A future addition to the Crosby School on the East side of town will be considered in the fall.

Meet With High School Staff
A letter was received from the York Central District High School Board stating the board had received a letter regarding a meeting between Richmond Hill Public School Trustees and the high school board to discuss matters of common interest. The high school board reply stated it was believed the matter concerned the two academic authorities rather than the trustees. Superintendent McIntyre stated the primary purpose of such a meeting would be to seek areas of co-operation. As there seemed to be some misunderstanding of the nature of the proposed discussion, Superintendent McIntyre agreed to contact the secondary school staff in the fall regarding the matter.

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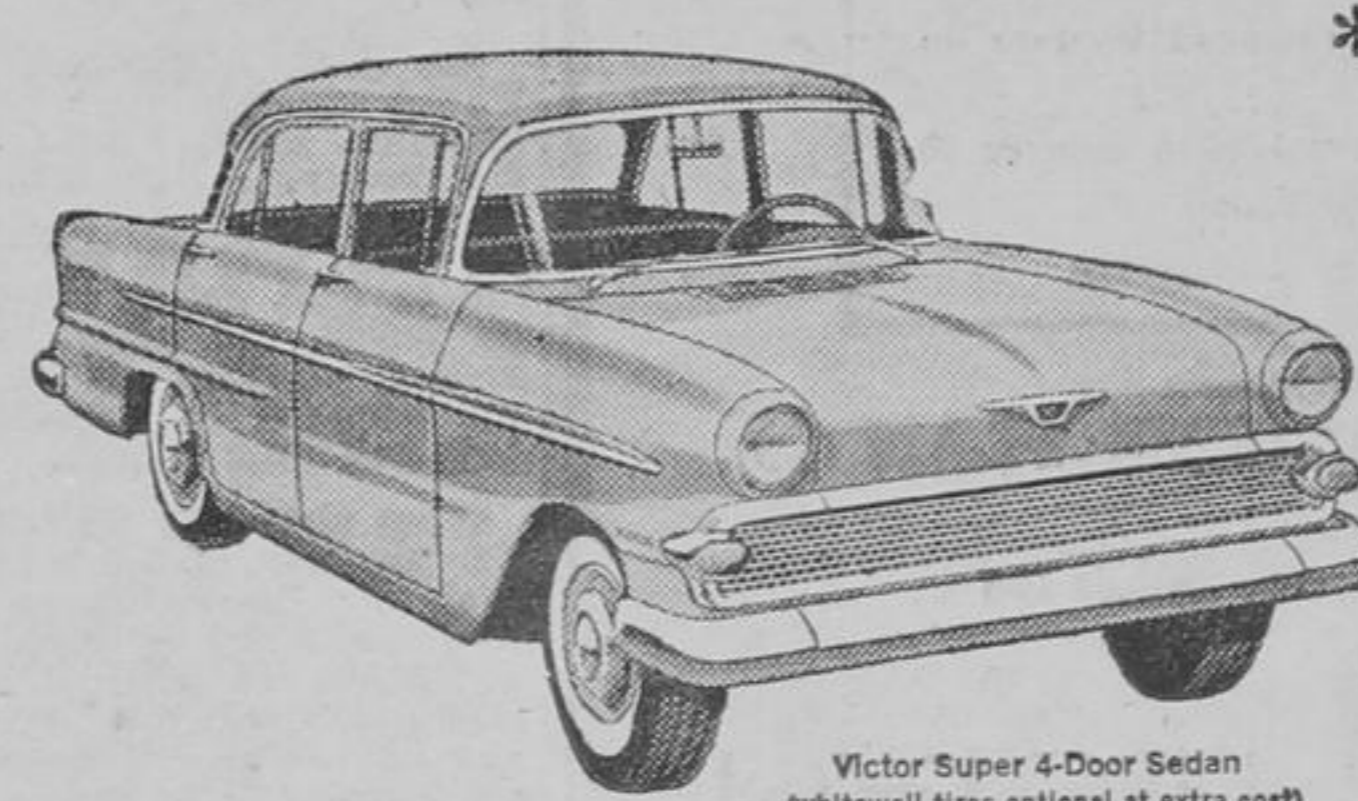
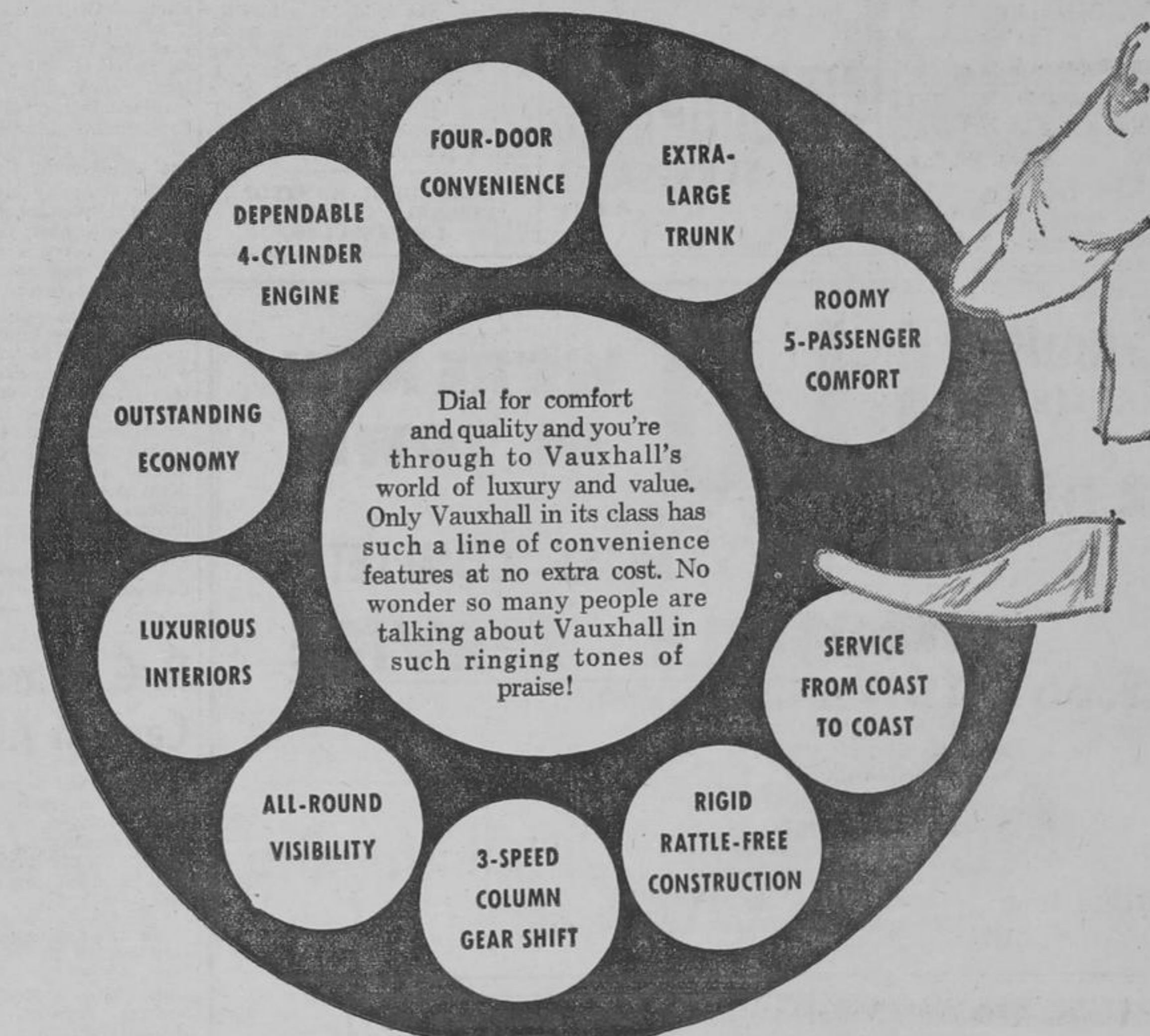
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